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TechAmerica Applauds Introduction of Senate Cybersecurity Legislation

Washington, DC – TechAmerica today applauded the introduction of the, “Cybersecurity Act of 2012” by Senators Lieberman, Collins, Rockefeller and Feinstein saying that the legislation provides several important elements for addressing the nation’s cybersecurity including elevating critical infrastructure protection, fostering better public-private sector information sharing on cyber threats, encouraging international cybercrime coordination and modernizing the Federal Information Security and Management Act (FISMA)

“TechAmerica strongly commends Chairman Lieberman, Ranking Member Collins, Chairman Rockefeller and Chairwoman Feinstein for their tireless leadership in elevating cybersecurity to a top national priority. Today’s introduction is a major step forward towards enhancing our nation’s cybersecurity posture. This bill is a careful and bipartisan approach to a serious national security challenge and provides a comprehensive framework for protecting our most critical infrastructure, without forcing unnecessarily broad mandates on industry,” said Dan Varroney, acting President and CEO of TechAmerica.

“We were pleased to see several areas where the private sector and government can work together to protect the more than 80 percent of our nation’s critical infrastructure owned and operated by the private sector,” added Mr. Varroney. “TechAmerica remains committed to further refinement of the legislation to ensure the private sector has a strong voice at the table. We hope that Congress will follow the tenet of first, do no harm, while being mindful that legislating on a complex technical issue of cybersecurity can have many possible unintended consequences. It is paramount that we preserve industry’s ability to continue to innovate and be flexible to respond to the evolving cyber threat landscape.”

TechAmerica has been actively involved in working with Congress and the Administration on cybersecurity legislation including proposing several strategic areas where public private collaboration can enhance our nation’s cybersecurity posture such as information sharing, national security and data breach notification, research and development, updating FISMA, and international cybercrime coordination and cooperation. The letter can be found here:

http://www.techamerica.org/Docs/fileManager.cfm?f=cyber_senate_1_5_12.pdf

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About TechAmerica

TechAmerica is the leading voice for the U.S. technology industry – the driving force behind productivity growth and jobs creation in the United States and the foundation of the global innovation economy. Representing approximately 1,000 member companies of all sizes from the public and commercial sectors of the economy, it is the industry's largest advocacy organization and is dedicated to helping members' top and bottom lines. TechAmerica is also the technology industry's only grassroots-to-global advocacy network, with offices in state capitals around the United States, Washington, D.C., Europe (Brussels) and Asia (Beijing). Learn more about TechAmerica at www.techamerica.org.